① NCSC was created under Art 338 of Indian Constitution. ①

Mandate

- → Studying constitutional safeguards for SC
- → Suo motu cognisance of cases of atrocities against SC
- → Giving advice to govt on promotion of SC
- → Has the power of civil court.

~~to~~

There is need to strengthen NCSC

~~due~~ due to 2

1) Human resource crunch due to wide mandate

2) Sub optimal financial allocation.

3) Largely advisor role which reduces impact of NCSC annual reports.

4) Low strength of NCSC, Lack of transparency in appointment and short tenure (of 3 years) which reduces effectiveness.

5) Lack of regional offices which reduces its domestic influence

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6) Lack of awareness among SC community regarding how to approach NCSC.

Way forward

1) Increasing strength of NCSC.

2) Regular & optimal financial allocation

3) Wider circulation of NCSC reports & online portal for complaint redressal.

4) More no. of regional offices of NCSC with adequate strength.

5) Collegium based transparent appointment system with fixed 5 year tenure.

6) Ban on future employment or office holders to promote impartiality.

This can promote interests of vulnerable groups like SC (Art 46 of constitution) in sustainable way.

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(2) RPA regulates election in Parliamentary & State legislature in India.

Criminalisation of Politics
- → Entry of criminal elements into Politics
- → 40% of Parliamentrians have criminal cases registered
- → 28% of them have serious criminal cases.

Provisions in RPA to counter criminalisation of Politics

1) A person convicted for 2 years or more is barred from contesting elections till 6 years after completion of punishment

2) A person convicted on charges of ~~corruption~~ promoting untouchability, violating National Honor act and committing social crimes like dowry/sati cannot fight elections

3) A jailed / convicted person looses his right to vote except in case of Preventive detention.

4) Provision of immediate disqualification is applicable (after Lily Thomas case)

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Infirmities present

1) Debarrment is after conviction and that too, not for life time

2) Delay in judicial process. Some cases are pending since 1989.

3) No case can be built against a person who has lost election for his unethical conduct.

4) Paid news is not an electoral offence

5) Some offences have less punishment e.g. filing false affidavit is not electoral offence.

Way Forward

1) Banning people from contesting if charges are framed by judiciary in serious case.

2) Paid news and false affidavit to be made electoral offence.

3) ~~Banned~~ Ban should be for life time & not just for 6 years

Haryana govt's step of Right to Recall in PRIs is an ideal step in this direction.

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(3) Gram Nyayalayas are constituted under Gram Nyayalaya Act, 2008.

Gram Nyayalaya Act Features

- Can be estd for intermediate Panchayat or a group of Panchayats
- Can try civil & criminal cases
- Appointment by states in consultation with High courts
- Can Act as mobile courts
- Follows Principle of natural Justice

Challenges faced

1) Inconsistency with Taluka level courts
2) Financial allocation is less as support by centre is over.
3) Human resource availability along with infra availability is sub-optimal.
4) Lack of awareness amongst people.
5) Working as limited courts for few days, so dealing with less no of cases.
6) Compared to target of more than 5000 courts, around 500 are existent. Not even a single one in North eastern states (PRS report)

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Way Forward

1) Appointing separate cadre of gram Nyayadhikari

2) Regular financial allocation & infra building.

3) Monitoring by HCs in performance of Gram Nyayalaya

4) Wide spread awareness among community regarding act. & promoting them as mobile courts.

These can become instrument in provide cheap & easy justice to all (Art 39 A)

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(4) Alternative mechanisms refer to processes & institutions which promote multi stakeholder participation in governance process.

Rationale for using these for effective decision making

1) Better inter departmental coordination in decision making & breaking departmental silos
e.g Empowered Group of secretaries

2) Allows knowledge sharing by private sectors & experts.

3) Increases trustworthiness of process and promote democratic spirit.

4) Provides better monitoring at the ground level and appropriate input for policy making.

5) Ensures Transparency & accountability in policy making process.

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Challenges

1) Lack of effective participation of all sections due to power differential.

2) May promote elite nexus which neglects policies for ~~put~~ vulnerable e.g. Crony capitalism

3) May present a wrong picture to govt regarding outcomes of policies

Diverse and democratic participation via digital media (e gov platform) can be used in this.

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(5) Bureaucracy refers to permanent executives involved in policy planning, monitoring & implementation.

Bureaucracy & Democracy are Pardoxical as

1) Bureaucrats share Power with Political class but are unelected

2) Bureaucratic-corporate nexus is detrimental to democracy.

3) Lack of connection of bureaucrats with ground level leads to poor policy making.

Bureaucracy & democracy are complementary

1) Bureaucratic recruitment are merit based, hence democratic.

2) Bureaucrats follow constitutional principles in their job.

3) They are under overall control of Elected political executive

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4) They derive their authority from laws created by elected legislatures.

5) With proper grievance redressal & accountability based mechanisms like CPGRAMS & RTI, they are answerable to ~~under control of~~ people at large.

Way Forward

1) Increasing accountability & transparency by e-governance (2nd ARC)

2) Civil services board & police reform to ensure impartiality (2nd ARC)

3) Decentralised governance & more powers to PRIs in planning & execution.

4) 360° performance appraisal mechanism for bureaucrats.

This can realise Sardar Patel's dream of making Civil services, steel frame of India.

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(6) e-governance refers to induction of electronic technologies in planning, implementation & dissemination of govt. policies and providing various govt services.

(11)

Empowering citizens by transforming governments functioning

1) Improving transparency & accountability e.g. suo-motu declaration of information online & e-RTI,

2) Grievance redressal system which is workflow based e.g. CPGRAMS.

3) Timelines for service delivery are fixed based on citizen charter e.g. Caste based certificate in Delhi

4) Linking performance of govt-employees with achieving timelines of service delivery e.s under ISO framework.

5) Standardisation of service delivery e.g. Sevottam framework.

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Reinventing People's participation

1) Taking suggestions from citizens e.g. e-gov platform.

2) Pre-legislative consultation e.g. Encryption policy was taken back after large feedbacks

3) Gives equal power to most vulnerable sections as distance, cost, age doesnot matter.

4) Ensure anonymyity in complaint related cases.

Increasing extent of digital infra, ~~Poli~~ Privacy protection legislation & emphasis on cyber security is the way forward.

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7) Transgender Person act 2019 aims towards

- → Eliminating discrimination
- → Constituting National Council for Transgenders
- → Giving Right of self determination
- → Facility of sex reassignment surgery
- → Protecting economic interests of transgender

Diluting spirit of NALSA judgement as

1) Need for certificate issued by DM (violates Right of self determination & Right to Privacy)

2) Does not provide reservation similar to OBC.

3) National Council for Transgender is just advisory body.

4) Right of Transgenders in property & succession is still unclear.

5) Definition of transgender is not as broad as envisioned in NALSA judgement.

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Way Forward

1) Extending reservation to transgenders under Art 15.

2) National Council for Transgender's authority need to be strengthened.

3) Requirement of certificate can be done away with.

4) Welfare Policy for Transgenders in line with Kerala and Tamilnadu need to be brought.

It will be true realisation of Right to equality under Art 14, 15 & 16.

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(8) Universal Health Coverage refers to accessibility, affordability of health services to all at all times.

(15)

Gaps in UHC in India

- 67% expenditure is out of pocket
- Public investment is just 1.5% of GDP (2.5% is target in National Health Policy)
- Every year 2 Mn people go below Poverty line due to large expenditure on health.

Benefit of declaring Right to Health as fundamental right

1) Will promote Art 21 in its true spirit.

2) Already Art 21's scope has been extented in form of Right to Affordable Health care by SC.

3) Violation will be punishable under Art 32 & 226.

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Challenges in declaring Right to health as fundamental Right

1) Lack of financial capability to invest in health care by centre & states

2) Will increase case load in courts as certainity of violation will be there in absence of state capacity.

3) Health services require immediate support, but legal process is long. So not much beneficial.

4) Costly legal process will be detrimental for vulnerable & poorer sections.

Way Forward

- Strengthening state capacity for health services
- PPP mode in healthcare (As per NITI Aayog Paper)
- PM Ayushman Bharat yojna implementation in letter & spirit.

This ~~is~~ will be realisation of SDG 3 in its true spirit.

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(9) 2 mn Indian diaspora reside in Gulf countries, primarily in Saudi Arabia, UAE, Kuwait and Behrain.

(17)

Indian diaspora in Gulf as an asset

1) Remittances are huge source of foreign Income for India (Around $70 bn)

2) Strengthening diplomatic links with Gulf regions due to diaspora.

3) Promotes cultural interaction.

4) Can become a source for technological and financial innovation & investment in domestic arena.

Challenges

1) Ethnic crimes in gulf countries against Indians.

2) Nationalistic Policies like Nitagat, which results into job losses.

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3) Lack of social security, poor contract regulation which promotes exploitation.

4) Reducing oil prices, reduces remittances

5) Regional conflicts like Iran - Saudi conflict, Yemen Conflict requires need for rescue operation like Sankat mochan.

Way Forward

→ Social security agreement with Gulf countries

→ Regulating contract terms and punishing erring agencies

→ Streamlined deportation protocols.

→ Alternative employment opportunities for people returning from Gulf countries.

This can promote regional prosperity.

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(10) World Food Program is a specialised agency of UN. (19)

Genesis & Functioning

→ In 1960s

→ To provide food support for refugees and displaced people.

→ Food support in countries which are politically unstable and economically backward

→ Takes help from contributing nations & philanthropic agencies

→ Works in coordination with FAO.

→ Overall monitoring by UN secretariat.

Contribution in India's case

1) Support of Food to India in 1960s.

2) Provided technical support in Green Revolution along with FAO.

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3) After Green Revolution & white revolution, India became contributor to WFP.

Challenges

- Less Financial support
- Human Resource crunch
- Political opposition by states

Due to WFP's efforts it was awarded Nobel Peace Prize for 2020.

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(11) Civil society groups are considered as 4th pillars in democracy. These are groups which includes NGOs, various pressure & interest groups which are neither part of state nor part of corporate sector e.g. PRS.

(21)

Various actions taken by govt. against civil society group

1) Cancellation of FCRA registration e.g. in case of Greenpeace.

2) Starting IB investigation against groups e.g. some Christian missionary groups.

3) Instead of banning NGOs, strict penalty are imposed on some groups.

It is seen as shrinking space for dissent by some due to following reasons:

1) Political motive is being accussed behind some actions

2) It can lead to violation of Art 19, 21, 29 & 30. which includes Freedom of Association & Religion.

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3) Criticised by foreign countries as anti-democratic e.g. in case of Narmada Bachao Andolan.

4) Is seen as economic strangulation tactics to check activities of NGOs which are against interest of ruling party.

Merit based actions against certain groups is needed due to

1) IB report showed that some NGOs actions are politically motivated & is leading to 2-3% loss of GDP e.g. Kudankulam Protests.

2) Just 10% NGOs file IT returns so there are instances of money laundering.

3) Missionary activity may include coercion or enticement e.g in case of Tribals, which is socio-culturally detrimental.

4) May result into foreign interference in sovereign functions of state e.g. National security

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Way Forward

1) One national legislation for NGOs registration (2nd ARC)
2) National level assessment & Auditing of civil society groups.
3) Regular filing of transparency report.
4) Ease of Registration and functioning for genuine NGOs (2nd ARC)

This can realise the goal of local capacity building and decentralised governance.

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PM being the "first amongst equals" in Parliamentary system, PMO plays an important role in central coordination & monitoring.

But recently PMOs role has increased due to

1) Strong majority govt. of one party.

2) Wider acceptability of party leader in govt.

3) Proactive governance by PMO by use of technology e.g. PRAGATI platform for governance

Implications of PMO being most powerful office in policymaking

Positives

1) Better coordination amongst different department e.g. EGoCoRe created to coordinate COVID action.

2) Improved monitoring & review capacity e.g. PRAGATI Portal, CPGRAMS Portal.

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3) Avoiding duplicity of work and breakdown of departmental silos.

4) Reduction of corruption & administrative delay.

Challenges

1) Weak devolution of administrative & financial powers which can cause demoralisation in decentralised level.

2) Centralised tendencies are not conducive for disaggregated data based policy making.

3) May result into lack of incorporation of wider viewpoint in policy making

4) May impact federal spirit of country e.g. Kerala's concern about GST devolution.

Although institutional frame work exist to cater to above challenges:-

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a) NITI Aayog

b) Group of state ministers to provide policy inputs e.g in GST.

c) Increased role of PRIs in policy formulation & execution e.g Jal Jeevan Mission requires local participation.

PMOs action as guiding point can promote better harmony in working amongst centre & states.

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(13) Judicial governance pertains to decision making by judiciary which is 3rd pillar of democracy. (27)

Importance of judicial governance in infusing accountability in functioning of govt.

1) Political reforms such as Lily Thomas judgement (immediate disqualification), advice to PM/CM not to appointed criminal background people as ministers

2) Making govt. accountable over delay of appointments in various statutory posts e.g. CIC

3) Asking & probing govt. over actions taken to protect migrants interests during COVID pandemic

4) Non expenditure of various funds by govt. functionaries e.g Building & construction workers cess, Nirbhaya fund.

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Engendering human rights jurisprudence

1) Making scope of fundamental rights wider.
   e.g Right to clean environment (Art 21)

2) Abolishing sec 377 of IPC promoting LGBTQ rights

3) Religious reforms for women
   e.g Sabrimala & Triple Talaq judgements

4) Right to privacy e.g. Puttaswamy case.

Judicial overreach = Judiciary's overstepping into legislative & executive domain.

Concerns of Judicial overreach

1) NJAC's annullment
2) Interference into economic policy (e.g. entry tax on trucks entering Delhi)
3) Amending SC/ST act to incorporate bailable provisions
4) Mandatory playing of national anthem in movie halls.

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Way Forward

1) Strict adherence to constitutional principles by judiciary by supporting separation of powers

2) Need for judicial accountability act. (NCRWC reccom)

3) More participation of executive in judicial appointment (2nd ARC)

4) Recent judgement to allow RTI in judiciary by SC is a step in right direction

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(14) Contempt of court refers to Civil & Criminal contempt of court (As per Contempt of Court Act)

(30)

Civil contempt → wilful disobedience of court's orders

Criminal contempt → Hindering administration of justice & lowering dignity of court

Exceptions → 1) Protection of "truth"

2) True reporting of judicial proceedings

3) Fair criticism of court judgements.

Source of Power → Art 32, 226 of Constitution
Contempt of court Act, 1971.

It is necessary for administration of justice as,

1) It protects dignity of judiciary.

2) Judges can not defend themselves publicly and in media (As per Ethics rule)

3) Allows court to implement their decision through fear of punishment.

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4) Freedom of speech & expression under Art 19 has reasonable restriction in Art 19(2).

But it can also lead to obstruction of justice as

1) Act is against principle of natural justice, as judge becomes judge in his own cause

2) Definition is subjective & based on personal interpretation.

3) Suo-motu cognisance by courts is creating problem e.g Prashant Bhushan case

4) Long, costly & arduous judicial process, itself becomes a punishment.

Way Forward

1) Need of an independent penal constituting retired judges to decide contempt cases.

2) Criminal contempt can be deleted, just keeping under civil contempt

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3) Clear guidelines for deciding contempt cases by SC which can be applied in all HCs also

This can further improve credibility of judicial system in the country.

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(15) Custodial violence cases refer to physical or psychological violence in police/judicial custody. (33)

Legal concerns with custodial violence:

1) It is against human rights jurisprudence & violates constitutional rights e.g. Art 21, 22.

2) Against international conventions. e.g UDHR & International Political Rights Convention

3) Reduces legitimacy of state and promote local discontent

4) Creates impunity amongst police personnals, if goes unpunished. Conviction rate is less than 5% in custodial violence cases (NCRB)

Challenges in curbing these incidents

1) Lack of appropriate legal help available

2) Lack of implementation of "Prakash Singh" judgement of SC. e.g. Police complaint authority etc.

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3) Lack of legal knowledge & knowledge about their rights among citizens.

4) Non-ratification of Convention against Torture by India.

5) Poverty, illiteracy and lack of women empowerment which results into custodial rape cases

Suggestions to address the issue

1) Proactive role of magistrate in identification of cases.

2) Availability of free legal help under Art 39(A) & Art 22 via NALSA.

3) Use of technology e.g. CCTV in police stations.

4) Fast tracking of cases against policeman & recovery of compensation.

5) Gender sensitisation of Police force (2nd ARC)

6) Ratification of Convention Against Torture by govt.

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This can result into realisation of Ram Rajya as envisioned by Gandhiji

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(16) Civil society interventions ~~[illegible]~~ has ~~to~~ resulted into changes in laws, policies to promote democratic & ethical governance. (36)

Confrontation ~~& engag~~ to promote transparency & accountability

1) Anna Hazare fast for Jan Lok Pal.

2) SC/ST movement to take back amendments in SC/ST Prevention of atro cities act, done by Judiciary.

3) MKSS efforts to bring RTI (Protests, demonstration etc)

4) Implementation of Forest Rights Act (After Protest from Tribals).

Engasement to Promote transparency & Accountability

1) Engasement of ~~[illegible]~~ NGOs to promote Social Audit in various schemes e.g. MNREGA.

2) Interest groups like PRS in promoting transparency in electoral funding e.g. Electoral bonds

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3) Promotion of e-governance by utilising services of civil society organisation e.g. Nilekani foundation

4) Role of citizen developers in development & modification of various apps. e.g. Aarogya Setu app.

5) Ensuring govt's accountability in data privacy case (Puttaswamy case)

Way Forward

1) Need for more institutional & continuous engagement e.g via NITI Aayog.

2) More participation at state & Local level.

Role of civil society organisations is paramount in achieving goals of India@75 and realisation of sustainable development.

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Ranked 95 in Global Hunger Index 2019, India has world's largest population of hungry children.

→ India has 37% stunted children & 20% wasted children

→ 50% of women are anemic.

→ India has triple burden of malnutrition, obesity and hidden hunger

Paradox of Plenty → Above conditions exist despite plenty.

1) India's food grains are overflowing. Every year 10-15 Mn Tonnes gets lost due to improper management.

2) India is largest producer of milk, and fruits like guava. 2nd largest in wheat & rice

3) India has largest area (in % age) which is arable and 2nd largest production of food grains.

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Ways to address the Problem

1) Diversification of food baskets to include more coarse grains.

2) Better management of stock, more investment and use of technology.

3) Consistent Liquidation Policy to provide grains to people

4) Fortified Food Provisions via ICDS & mid day meal.

5) Promoting sustainable food processing industry e.g via SAMPADA Yojna.

6) creating decentralised/ local food grain storage at village level

7) Reforming PDS system & FCI (as per Shanta Ram committee recommendation)

8) Putting emphasis on proper nutrition of mothers (lactating & pregnent), emphasis on sanitation & vulnerable groups/e.g. Tribals)

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This can realise the goal of hunger free India (SDG 2) for us.

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(18) Wage employment is an employment contract in which fixed wages are given after a pre-defined execution of job.

(91)

Poverty status in India:

21% people are poor (Tendulkar committee recommendation)

25% in rural & 18% urban people are poor.

Role of wage employment in alleviating poverty

1) Guarantee of minimum wage

2) Availability of work in distress situation e.g drought

3) Child Labor is prohibited.

4) Fixed income can promote children's health & education standards.

5) No discrimination on the basis of caste, class, gender etc.

6) Results into development of skill, if employment is skill based

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7) Rural urban migration reduces especially distress migration

MGNREGA is different from earlier wage ~~store~~ employment Program

1) It is demand based program

2) Limit of 60:40 to man & material so labor intensive

3) Creates sustainable asset

4) Use of social audit to promote transparency.

5) Direct payment into banks promote financial inclusion.

6) A part of money need to be spent on women employment so promote gender inclusion

Similarities

1) Primary emphasis on unskilled workers.

2) Reducing distress migration.

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There is need for more fund allocation & use of technology for geo-tagging to capture all the benefits of the scheme.

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Chinese aggressiveness is an outcome of domestic compulsions & International rebuttal on COVID spread

Examples of aggressiveness

1) Troop buildup along LAC

2) Galwan conflict which led to deaths of soldiers from both sides.

3) Use of undiplomatic language in communication

4) Aggressive stance in South China sea

5) Hong Kong protests were suppressed

6) Strong line on unification of Taiwan

Challenges to India due to this

1) Need to equate Chinese buildup with our own. This is military expenditure which can be used for COVID response

2) Balancing India's interests in neighbourhood e.g Nepal's boundary conflict has chinese support

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3) Pakistan may become aggressive with China's support & increased terror input to J&K may ensue.

4) maintaining strategic autonomy despite becoming part of QUAD.

5) Promoting Indian investment to counter BRI of China.

6) Dependancy for various critical items on China e.g. API.

Opportunities to strengthen India domestically

1) Developing domestic critical industries e.g Pharma

2) Technology Transfer e.g. in defence from US.

3) Promoting employment generation via more investment in strategic industries

4) Building infra along borders. Can esp. benefit North Eastern states.

5) Putting more emphasis on Regional integration e.g. SAARC electricity trade

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International opportunities

1) More ~~cto~~ strategic closeness with US.

2) Developing relations with democratic partners e.g Australia, Japan, ASEAN.

3) Increased role of India in Global supply chain.

4) Improved soft Power ~~status~~ due to benign foreign Policy.

5) Promoting India's role in SAGAR and as Net Security Provider in Indian Ocean.

This is possible with emphasis on defence, trade and maritime diplomacy with ~~[illegible]~~ other countries

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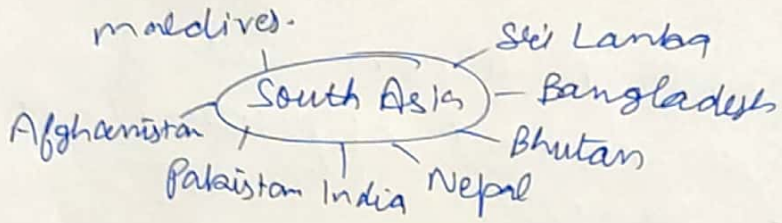
(20) South Asia is least integrated economically, despite having very high cultural similarities



Challenges in South Asia

1) Poor infra connectivity

2) Political conflicts e.g. India – Pakistan.

3) Fear of India as big brother

4) Relatively under developed economies, so less scope for investment

5) Regional institutions in disarray due to conflicts e.g. SAARC.

6) MVA could not be implemented due to Bhutan's ecological concerns.

7) Digital connectivity is also not optimal due to fear of cyber security.

8) SAARC trade accounts for less than 5% of total trade of countries

Opportunities for South Asia

1) India as 3rd largest economy (PPP wise) has huge potential for economic investment.

2) South Asia can act as huge market opportunity for companies.

3) Energy security can be promoted by BIMSTEC/ South Asia Grid

4) Gas/oil pipe line connectivity can promote energy security

5) Role of HIT (Highway, Information way & Transmission way) can open huge opportunities.

6) Digital India can be extended to Digital South Asia.

7) Cultural connectivity via tourism circuits (e.g. krishna circuit, Buddha circuit) can be promoted

8) GIAN can promote knowledge connectivity between research & academic institutions.

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9) Sister city concept can promote sustainable urbanisation.

Some recent initiatives

1) Akhaura Agartala rail line
2) Amlebhganj oil pipe line
3) Electricity trade with Bangladesh, Nepal & Bhutan
4) India - Afghan connectivity via Chhabahar

There is a need for institutional leadership to make South Asian regional integration a success similar to ASEAN.

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① Power discoms are in debt of more than 80000 Cr, even after UDAY scheme.

①

Issues with Power discoms

1) operational inefficiency
e.g high T&D losses

2) High cost of procurement & low cost of selling
e.g due to Political opportunism and subsidies

3) Financial inefficiency
e.g low ~~cost~~ revenue realisation, low debt servicing.

4) Poor investment in infrastructure

5) Poor competition and low benchmarking due to weak accountability

6) High cross subsidisation and lack of support from state budgets.

7) Poor technology uptake
e.g. online billing is not there in some states.

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Benefits of Privatising discoms

1) More investment
2) Govt can move away from budgetary support
3) Better technology can lead to more technical, operational & financial efficiency e.g. Time of the day Pricing.
4) Early incorporation of smart grid
5) Promoting Ease of doing Business & more competition

Challenges

1) High cost for consumer
2) Private player may focus less on poor consumers.
3) Issues with agriculture esp in states like Punjab.
4) People may commit violence against private sector employees if quality of electricity is poor.

Way Forward

Reforms in case public DISCOMS can be reformed. Separation of content & carriage and privatising selectively

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(2) Smart agriculture refers to use of technology in agriculture (3)

Uses in
- ↳ weather information
- ↳ Soil information
- ↳ controlling irrigation automatically
- ↳ Rational use of inputs
- ↳ Better market Pricing information.

It can improve farm productivity via

1) Optimising inputs e.g. fertiliser / Pesticides.

2) Reducing cost e.g. water cost

3) Achieve better crop selection based on predictive price algorithm e.g. microsoft is developing this for A.P.

4) Better price realisation

5) Low losses due to pests

6) Allowing credible information access to risk management firms, so insurance cost will reduce.

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7) Promoting integrated farming in better way.

Challenges

- Cost
- Literacy of farmers
- Less extension service availability to farmers
- Less awareness

There is a need of National mission on Smart Agriculture which can subsume NICRA and National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture. Some recent schemes like FASAL, BHUVAN & NADAM can be taken as its foundation.

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(3) Emphasis on quantity refers to measurable amount (e.g. GDP growth), while quality refers to normative aspects.

(5)

Moving from quantity to quality

1) From GDP growth rate to Happiness as inclusiveness requires elimination of inequality

2) Emphasis on environmental quality e.g. Delhi's per capita income is high but smog pollution reduces quality of life.

3) Measuring regional imbalances e.g. emphasis on vulnerable groups like tribals

4) Improving GDP by emphasising economic empowerment of women.

5) Providing employment opportunities by emphases on labor intensive sector, cottage industries & MSMEs

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6) Promoting values of harmony, tolerance to promote peace apart from supporting material values

7) Focussing on quality of manufactured components as much as on quantity (e.g zero Defect zero Effect)

8) Promoting urbanisation while focussing on slum rehabilitation and sustain-ability

This is the way forward in realising true vision of Gandhiji's Talisman.

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4) Atmanirbhar Bharat aims towards making India self reliant based on 5 Pillars
- → Economy
- → Infrastructure
- → System
- → Demography
- → Demand

Core areas crucial in export Promotion

India has 1.7% share in world manufacturing Export which requires increase.

1) Infrastructure investment e.g. Roads, Railways to reduce logistics cost (which is 14%)

2) Easing regulatory burden & simplifying processes e.g custom clearance.

3) Incentivisation to exports e.g. cheaper credit via Exim Bank.

4) Strengthening SEZ Ecosystem via Baba Kalyani report recommendations e.g. reducing tax, renaming these as EEE etc

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5) Standardisation of exports e.g. via international standards.

6) Reconsidering existing FTAs based on contemporary needs (Economic Survey 2020)

7) Easing of land & labor laws to promote productivity

8) Focusing on niche areas e.g agriexport, electronics export

9) Making India part of Global value chain by promoting ease of doing business

Recently done reforms like lowering tax rate, Promoting VGF in PPPin infra, IBC can go a long way in this direction

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(5) Arsenic pollution is becoming Prominent in Northern Alluvial Plains esp. along Ganga & its tributaries

(9)

Sources

1) Industrial discharge which is untreated

2) Untreated sewerage & leaching from hazardous waste & e-waste

3) High groundwater extraction which promotes leaching from Arsenic rocks

4) Waste dumping into the rivers from urban & industrial regions

5) Leaching from Ash of Thermal plants

Consequences

1) Human health & animal health → acts as Carcinogen & can lead to renal failure

2) Biomagnification in crops.

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3) Cause genetic defects in plants.

4) Pollution of ground water can remain there for long term.

5) Impacts marine biota e.g deaths of fishes.

Measures to tackle it

a) Preventive measure
- ↳ Aquifer management & low groundwater use
- ↳ Treating waste discharge from industries
- ↳ Sewage Treatment Plant capacity enhancement
- ↳ Use of hydrophytic plants which remove Arsenic from water

Creative measures

- ↳ R&D on new technology to filter Arsenic from water
- ↳ Afforestation along river banks

This can lead to sustainable management of water resources

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(6) Green Term Ahead Market refers to selling of Renewable Energy (RE) in short term market without having Long term PPAs.

It can reinvogorate RE sector

For sellers

- ↳ more scope of selling RE
- ↳ Better Price discovery based on demand
- ↳ more investment in RE to capture merchant trading
- ↳ No fear of cancellation of PPAs (e.g. A.P. case)
- ↳ Timely payment to RE developers (following T+2 regime)
- ↳ Can allow better integration of RE into grid thereby removing variability.

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For Buyers

- Availability of electricity when there is need
- No long term committment
- Easy fulfillment of statutory RE purchase compliances
- Can look for better prices without getting tied to single seller.

For electricity sector

- Can Promote time of day pricing.
- Faster roll out of smart grid
- Can lead to more "greenness" of sector

Challenges

- Less awareness
- Still at infancy, so performance can't be predicted accurately

This can be a game changing moment for RE sector in India.

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(7) Use of technology like GIS & Remote sensing can be beneficial at every level of disaster management

(13)

In Prevention, Mitigation & Preparation

↳ For hazard & risk mapping e.g Landslide prone areas

↳ Better urban & rural land use to avert disasters e.g flood plain zoning started in Bihar

↳ Geo tagging of essential institutions on map e.g health facilities in National Digital Health Mission

↳ Mapping the vulnerable population to which help should be extended promptly.

In Response/Recovery & Rehabilitation

↳ Facebook's Safety check feature during Kedarnath floods.

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↳ Faster assessment of losses via GIS eg. Kisan Fasal Yojana uses space tech for loss assessment.

↳ Identifying victims who are trapped in inassessible regions e.g drones were used in Assam floods

↳ Use of Satellite based phones in areas of disasters

There are concerns related to authenticity, accuracy & reliability of information. But incorporation of Data Analytics, AI along with GIS/Remote sensing can make responses prompt and more accurate

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(8) Inventors of CRISPR technique recently got Nobel Price in Medicine, 2020.

CRISPR for genome editing

↳ Can cut a part of genome of organism

↳ Can replace it with part of genome from other organism

It has revolutionised genome editing technique as

↳ It is less costly

↳ Much faster

↳ More accurate & precise editing can be done

↳ Can be applied on whole set of organisms

↳ Rejection rates are lesser.

Application in various areas

1) Health care sector e.g. creating new biological vaccines as in insulin

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2) Agri sector → High quality Herbicide Tolerant GM crops for high productivity.

3) Space research → creating crops that can sustain in difficult environment. SpaceX is doing this for Mars settlement project

4) Resolution of various rare diseases and genetic defects

Challenges

↳ Creating modified babies e.g done by a Chinese researcher

↳ Tinkering with nature can have serious & undesirable effects e.g Anti biotic resistance diseases

↳ Lack of global SOP

↳ No global regulations for unethical conduct

↳ Domestic legislative gaps in genome editing.

↳ Can be misused to create biological weapons

Technology is as good as ethical conduct of researcher. There is need for SOPs to use CRISPR to curb its misuse.

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9) FATF is a multilateral body of 37 countries. (Also includes EU & GCC)

Mandate
- → curbing money laundering and
- → curbing Terror Financing

Role of FATF in Money laundering

1) Releasing standards for harmonisation of information sharing amongst countries

2) India modified Prevention of money laundering act to confirm FATF recommendations e.g. Corresponding laws was included

3) Regulations to make civil society organisations more accountable.

4) Promotion of Sanctioning jurisdiction which don't comply with FATF standards.

5) Grey listing and Black listing of jurisdictions which can impact their economic prospects.

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6) Promoting collaboration of intelligence agencies of different countries e.g FIU-IND & ED of India with others

7) Putting restrictions on tax havens to avoid treaty shopping.

8) Putting restrictions on financing of terrorism, which can be a motive to launder money.

Challenges

↳ Geopolitics → e.g. Pakistan is still not Black listed

↳ ~~All~~ Less no. of member countries

↳ Sanctions are not mandatory & depend upon individual country

Still, role of FATF is commendable and can be ~~self~~ enhanced by increasing membership and strong sanctioning regime against erring jurisdictions.

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(10) National security architecture include Planning, information gathering & execution Part. (19)

Planning side Reforms

1) Constitution of Defence Planning Committee headed by NSA
2) Creating Post of Chief of Defence Staff (Naresh Chandra Committee recommn)
3) Indian Maritime Security Strategy (3 circle strategy)
4) Devolution of Powers to lower functionaries e.g Joint secretaries & Vice-Chief of staffs

Intelligence gathering

1) Multi Agence Centre
2) NATGRID
3) National Cyber Crime Coordination Centre, IMAC, Information Fusion Centre

Execution Part

1) Mission based Deployment of Navy.
2) Integrated Battle groups

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3) Improved tooth to tail ratio by implementing Shekatkar Committee recommendation

4) CIBMS, Bold-QIT & Border security Grid (Madhukar Gupta Committee)

Impact of reforms

1) Better responsiveness to threats
2) More coordination among agencies
3) Quality of Actionable intelligence will improve.
4) Accuracy & predictability of response will improve
5) Cost reduction due to better management of resources.

Challenges

↳ Defence expenditure is less (1.5% of GDP)
↳ Need for strategic cooperation globally.
↳ Skill set in cyber security is lacking.

There is a need for White Paper on national security and National security Doctrine, along with increasing defence expenditure to 2.5% of GDP (Shekatkar Committee)

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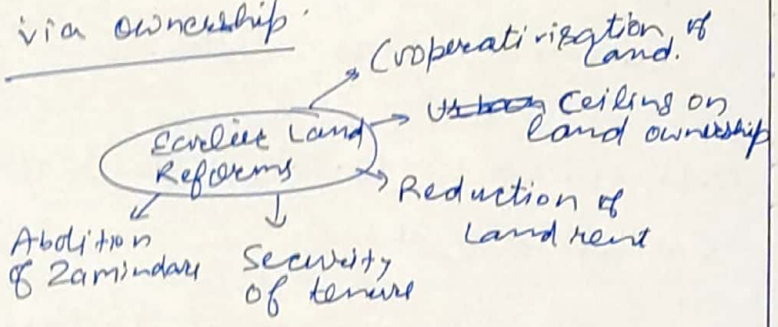
(1) Land reform is a process of providing land to agriculturists who don't have it either via secured tenure or via ownership.

(21)



Key hurdles being faced now

1) Land fragmentation due to increased population. Operational land holding is around 1ht now.

2) Opposition to forced cooperatisation, as e.g. of China is not applicable now.

3) Opposition by land holders, as land consolidation is helpful in better mechanisation and improving agri productivity.

4) Less support by political parties, as leftist parties are not in power regionally or in centre.

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5) Lack of availability of land ownership data, although computerisation of land record is changing this issue.

Advantages that can be reaped via land reforms

1) Improving income to farmers as 48% of farmers own just 24% of total land.

2) Promote capital long term investment by tillers, if they have tenural security.

3) Will achieve goal of doubling income for farmers, due to easy access to credit & risk management, in lieu of ownership of land.

4) May lead to mutual cooperation amongst farmers in form of FPO or cooperatives

5) Especially beneficial for Tribal people, who are getting alienated due to intrusion of

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market forces.

Way Forward

1) Need to bring land tenancy and sub-letting legislations.

2) Incentives to farmers to promote cooperativisation of activities e.g. FPOs.

This can result into bringing evergreen Revolution in agricultural arena.

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(12) Nutritional security refers to providing adequate nutrition apart from just focussing on calorie based food.

India needs to accorded more significance to nutritional security than food security as

Various programs for food security are there like

- → PDS
- → National Food Security Act
- → ICDS for children & pregnant women
- → mid day meal for children

But still nutritional outcomes are poor ?

1) 38% of children are stunted
2) 20% of children are wasted
3) more than 50% of women in reproductive age are anaemic
4) Condition is poorer in case of tribal & rural areas

Some steps taken to promote nutritional security,

→ POSHAN Abhiyaan

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→ Setting minimum standards of nutrition in mid day meal

→ Providing Coarse cereal & pulses via PDS.

→ Iron & Folic Acid supplement to adolescent ~~women~~ girls

Framework that needs to be adopted for nutritional self Reliance

→ Promoting diversity in agri-culture. Increasing emphasis on pulses, coarse cereals etc

→ Multiple options to be made available in ICDS & Midday meal e.g milk is provided in Haryana

→ Regular monitoring of nutritional status of children in schools/ Anganwadi and pregnent ladies.

→ Emphasis on preventive health-care, WASH strategies

→ Providing locally relevent food to tribals

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→ Availability of clean drinking water e.g via Jal Jeevan mission

→ Concept of PDS mall of Andhra can be adopted nationally.

→ Dash board of nutritional data to ensure accountability

→ Collaboration with global players, MNCs to work in direction of fortified food e.g. F+ concept of FSSAI.

This will allow us to achieve our committment of SDG2 and DPSP Art 45 of nutritional security.

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(13) Gross Fixed Capital investment are in the range of 25-26%. (Economic survey) which is lower than pre-2008 times

Private investment are key to move India into higher growth trajectory as :

1) It increases capital investment for long term gestation project

2) Creates employment opportunity as govt's ability to provide employment is limited.

3) Can promote skill development prospects

4) Promoting Ease of Doing business by emphases on infra building e.g reducing logistics cost

5) Making India a part of Global value chain, thereby strengthening economic interlinkages & reducing risk.

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6) Promote political stability
7) Reduced crime rate
8) women empowerment by economic empowerment

Steps taken by govt to address fall in private investment

1) Lowering corporate tax rate e.g. 15% to manufacturing firms
2) Abolishing Dividend Distribution Tax
3) Easier availability of capital by Bank reform, recapitalization & special windows for Startups, SMEs etc
4) Reforming provisions of SEZ Act e.g. offset can apply from purchase from SEZ.
5) Emphasis on infra building e.g. highways
6) Viability gap funding e.g. UDAN scheme.

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7) Improving contract enforcement e.g. Commercial benches in High courts

8) Insolvency code for easier exit

9) Decriminalisation of various offences in ~~Cor~~ Companies Act

10) Sectoral reform to promote private sector investment e.g. Coal sector

Way Forward

1) Adapting Kelkar committee recommendations in PPP.

2) Bringing direct Tax reforms via Arbind Modi committee recommendation,

3) Improving EoDB via emphasis on land registration and contract enforcement reform

This can may India truly Atmanirbhar.

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(14) Regional balanced development requires a regional approach to development

(30)

Geographical diversity of India

- Himalayas in North & North east
- Vast Alluvial Plains
- Deccan Plateau with intra regional diversity
- Forested Areas (North east & Chattisgarh)
- Desert & Drought Prone regions of North West India

Development levels are varied

1) Per Capita income
2) Health indicators (MMR is 47 in Kerala, 238 in Assam)
3) Poverty levels are higher in eastern India.
4) Women empowerment is more in Southern India

Problem in single action Plan for whole country

1) Resource availability is different

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2) Perception of people is different

3) Centralization is harmful in federal structure

4) Natural biodiversity & resilience levels are different e.g. Western Ghats are highly vulnerable to Red group industries

~~Need to~~

5) Alienation can happen amongst different groups e.g Tribal alienation

Need for targeted region specific action plan

1) Drought Prone area → Emphasis on water harvesting, canal laying, livestock management

2) Tribal area Plan e.g. Sub Plan for Tribals in budget

3) North east Plan to promote sustainable infra development

4) Western ghat development Plan to promote natural conservation and employment generation e.g. eco-tourism.

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5) Hill area development plans by emphasis on natural conservation, hazard management (landslide) and employment generation

This can truely allow "Sabka saath, Sabka Vishwaas" and make India's development path more sustainable.

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(15) Barrier free trade is sine qua non for making India, a single agricultural market.

Barrier free trade is critical as

↳ For farmers → Provides better Pricing, risk management, and new information for better Product; removing intermediaries

For consumer → more variety, lesser Prices, good quality

For FPO and Processing companies → Good quality Product at lesser cost, generation of employment opportunities in non-agri sector, so reducing burden on agri land

Existing Bottlenecks

1) Legal bottlenecks like APMC act which prohibits selling products outside mandis

2) Technological issues like lack of understanding & penetration of e-NAM.

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3) Logistical issues e.g. Poor Connectivity.

4) Infra issues e.g. lack of availability of food storage tanks & cold storage

5) Lack of dispute redressal mechanism

6) Weak availability of standards for sorting, grading etc.

Recent legislations

1) Essential Commodities Act
- → Freeing up storage quantity from govt. restrictions except in war, famine etc
- → Benefit to exporters

Can lead to
- → More investment in storage infra.
- → Cheaper availability of infra to farmers.
- → Promotion of Negotiable Warehouse Receipt.

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2) Farmer's Produce Trade & Commerce (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2020:

- Farmers can sell product outside mandi
- Can sell via e-platforms
- No fee to be charged by states

Benefit

- More marketing options available
- Reduced transaction cost
- Better Price discovery

3) Farmers Assurance of Price and Farm Services act

- Allows contract farming
- Will reduce input cost to farmers
- Better risk management
- Guaranteed price.
- Dispute redressal mechanism

Way Forward

Need to address concerns of farmers group regarding MSP and promoting FPOs is way forward.

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(16) Floods impact 12.5% of total land in India (NIDM report)

(36)

Topographical reasons for floods in Bihar & Assam

1) Flat lands with less slops resulting into poor drainage and slow movement of rivers.

2) Results into more silt deposition, changing river courses frequently (e.g. Kosi)

3) Water level is high, so downward penetration is less.

Other reasons

1) Deforestation which increases surface run off & soil erosion

2) Unsustainable dam management e.g release of water untimely.

3) Embankments which increases risk for lower riparian regions.

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4) Blocking of natural drainage e.g unsustainable waste management.

5) Unsustainable urbanisation causing blocking of drainage and urban heat island impact causing urban floods.

6) Climate change causing unpredictability in rainfall.

7) Damming of Brahmaputra by China & release of large sediments

Measures to control the menace

1) Structural measures
- → Afforestation
- → Diverting water by canals
- → Embankments, dams & reservoirs to reduce peak.
- → Houses on stilts e.g in Assam

2) Non structural measures
- → Information dissemination regarding flood rates.

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- Flood Plain Zoning
- Flood Proofing of infra
- Information exchange regarding river hydrology e.g India-China on Brahmaputra
- Scientific dam management practices.
- Waste management in a way, it does not block natural drainage.
- Institutional structure For which responds to flood crises promptly
- Capacity building of local people, PRIs & state govt in responsiveness.

This can allow us make Bihar & Assam more resilient to floods

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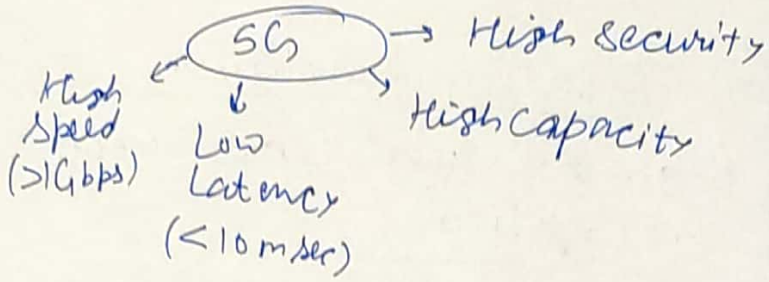
(17) 5G refers to fifth generation technology in Telecommunication



5G can bring digital revolution in India

1) Easier accessibility of content in far away areas.

2) More digital penetration in corporations due to high speed

3) Promotion of telemedicine, tele surgery and e-education

4) More govt. services will be available online.

5) Promotion of Artificial Intellisence & Internet of Things e.g. Deiverless cars.

6) More employment opportunities

7) Agricultural revolution due to Precision farming.

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8) Logistic revolution e.g interconnected vehicles.

9) Taxation revolution e.g. high & real time data processing.

Challenges in 5G's adoption

1) High investment needed. Telecom sector already under stress.

2) Lack of digital literacy can increase cases of cyber crime

3) Problems of data privacy in absence of legislation

4) National security concern as telecom equipment may be imported e.g Huawei case

5) Still 4G's penetration is not in All India

6) May be less investment in rural areas, as break even may require large population densities.

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Way Forward

1) More R&D and domestic production of telecom equipment

2) Govt. support in terms of cheaper loans or viability funding via USOF.

3) Emphasising on some critical sectors initially as test cases e.g. IoT in transport.

This will realise vision of truely interconnected India as knowledge based economy as envisaged in National Digital Communication Policy.

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(18) Quantum technology refers to using qubits as mode of storage system based on principles of superposition & entanglement.

(42)

Use of quantum tech in computing

- Faster calculations
- High speed & low latency rate
- Solving complex problems
- Using multivariable approach in problem solving

e.g. Sycamore system of Google

Other potential areas

1) Cyber security & deterrance
2) Health sector e.g. finding vaccines for viruses.
3) Weather modelling e.g. Ensemble models
4) Understanding & predicting cosmological phenomenon e.g. supernovas.

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5) Better modelling of natural phenomenon & understanding natural hazards.

6) secure communication (QUESS by China)

Challenges

1) High investment required
2) Lack of human resources
3) Can work in highly specific environments e.g. super cooled environment
4) Can work only on specific problems
5) Lack of global coordination
6) Can be used for non-peaceful purposes e.g designing dangerous virus.

Way forward

1) more investment e.g. national Mission on Quantum Computing.
2) Global collaboration with like minded countries.

This can allow positive features of technology to come forward and can benefit mankind,

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(19) North-Eastern India has insurgent groups demanding separate state, more autonomy and even sovereignity. But this is changing.

(44)

Many have given up violence & engaged in Peace talks

1) Suspension of operation agreement with NSCN(IM)

2) Resolution of Bodo issue after reconstitution of Bodoland Territorial Region

3) AFSPA revoked from Tripura

4) Conduct of regular & fair elections have increased their trust

5) Cooperation with Myanmar & Bangladesh have left few avenues for insurgents.

6) Infra development e.g. Bharatmala, UDAN scheme

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7) Breakdown on funding to insurgents by intelligence organisations

8) Resolution of Bru migrant dispute recently.

Some issues that can create hurdle

1) Political opportunism by provoking one community against other

2) Loss of employment opportunities for locals e.g. Bru migrant case.

3) Improper implementation of Terms of agreement e.g with Bodo's, it was 3rd agreement

4) Support for insurgents by outside forces e.g. from China or radicalisation tendencies

5) Impact of climate change, can result into influx of climate migrants (e.g. from Bangladesh)

6) Political situation in

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neighbouring countries e.g. Rohingya issue.

7) Inter tribal conflicts can emerge again e.g. Naga vs. Kuki issue

Way Forward

1) Strengthening autonomous institutions under 5th & 6th schedule.

2) Faster implementation of Development Projects.

3) Engaging all other groups hitherto not engaged

4) Winning trust of people by good governance

5) Enhancing employment opportunities via tourism & promotion of service sector.

By this way North East India can become jewels on the neck of Indian subcontinent

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(20) India is 3rd most vulnerable country in the world in case of cyber security (Symentec report)

(47)

Key vulnerabilities in India's cyber space

1) Lack of awareness & absence of cyber hygiene

2) Less investment in cyber security by individuals & corporates

3) Less availability of trained cyber warriors (Target of National cyber security Policy has not met)

4) Poor global coordination

5) High vulnerability as more than 50 Cr internet connections are there in India

6) Less no. of startups in cyber security space.

7) Weak adherence to standard operating procedure e.g Recent cyber attack on Kudankulam nuclear Plant

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8) Weak Legal framework e.g IT act need amend-ment

9) Security apparatus is weak e.g low awareness in police force

New framework require following aspects

1) Need for defining hierarchical security response

2) Creating cyber defence, deterrance & offensive capabilities.

3) Increasing skill set in human resources

4) More R&D in cyber space sector.

5) Industry - academia - Govt - collaboration e.g Data security council of India

6) Legislative framework for data privacy & security e.g Privacy bill.

7) Signing Budapest Convention and compliance with Talinn manual

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8) Bringing out human rights charter on cyber space

9) Engaging with global community multilaterally e.g at UN to create global cyber modes of engagement

10) Incentivising corporate sector to adopt cyber security framework.

11) Including cyber security courses in school curriculum

Recently created Defence Cyber Command is a step in right direction. As world moves from cold war to code war, India's role in cyber space is going to be of global importance.

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① Hampi was capital of Vijaynagara empire

It is called city carved in stone due to

- → Large temples made of rocks (Hampi Temple)
- → Large administrative rock cut structures by Vijayanagar Rulers.

Architectural significance

1) Dravidian form of architecture
   - → Shikhar & Viman
   - → Enclosed structures
   - → Garbhagriha and Antaral
   - → Pond in structures

2) Secular form of structures e.g Lepakshi temple which shows grandeur in its structural form.

Historical significance

→ Capital of Vijaynagara Empire

→ High economic development and centre of trade

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during Vijay nagar's rule. (2)

→ Became a region of conflict between Bahmani empire & Vijaynagar empire.

Now remains of Hampi have been accorded as UNESCO World Heritage Status tag.

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Benevolence was one aspect which was basis of British rule. It meant that British rule was in favour of India's interests.

It was on basis of following

→ British created political unity

→ Linguistic unity by English as lingua franca

→ Bringing technology to India e.g Railways.

→ Eliminating superstition & promoting gender equality e.g. Sati Abolition

→ Bringing foreign institutions e.g. Bureaucracy which has machinistic efficiency.

Intellectual & Political work ~~brota~~ eroded these myths by

1) Drain theory given by Dada Bhai Nairoji etal to show economic losses to India due to British rule.

2) ~~How~~ Explaining how technology imported is to fulfill British interest e.g

Railway → To subjugate far away regions.

Machines → To destroy local industries

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3) Gandhiji's leadership showed how British bureaucracy is against India's interest & is following British interests e.g via discrimination against locals.

4) British Legal system is expensive, complex and neglects local diversity.

5) British support to some communities e.g. Muslims is not benevolent, but part of Divide and Rule Policy

6) ~~This~~ British missionary work in tribal areas is resulting into loss of local languages, customs and traditions.

This was important step in winning "War of Positions" against Britishers.

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(3) Govt. of India Act 1919 was known as Mantagu-Chelmsford Reforms (5)

It resulted into following changes in British India

1) Created Diarchy at Provincial level
2) Bicameralism in central legislature
3) Making non-officials, a majority at central & provincial level.
4) Widened the combit of separate electorate.
5) Separation of subjects into reserved & transferred
6) Creation of Central Public Service Commission
7) More financial powers to provinces

But some things remained same

↳ Over arching control of Governor in Provinces & viceroy in centre

↳ Limited franchise & financial powers to elected representatives.

↳ Continuation of divide & rule policy.

Although statement by Viceroy regarding future aim of British govt; enthused nationalists

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Responses from Leadership

→ Condemned communal electorate and poor devolution of Powers (INC)

→ Criticised central control by official & Lack of Indianisation of civil services (INC)

→ Supported separate electorate (Muslim League)

→ There was no talk of Swaraj in Reforms

Overall there was discontent that resulted into

- → Reorganisation of CWC by Gandhiji
- → Support by INC to Khilafat movement
- → Start of Non-cooperation movement to gain Swaraj

This became foundational building block for future freedom struggle

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(7)

(4) Arab unity refers to unity among countries, having dominant Arab Population e.g Egypt & Gulf countries

This goal has been elusive till now Due to

1) Constitutional difference among countries e.g. Jordan & Saudi Arabia are conservative monarchies while Egypt is not

2) US-USSR conflict → Saudi Arabia has pro-US approach while USSR supported Egypt.

3) Various events like Suez canal conflict further widened differences

4) Recognition of Israel by Egypt (Camp David Accord) remained a hesitancy

5) Lack of decentralised power structure has been an irritant, as diversity of opinions are not there.

6) Local conflicts in countries resulted into political & economic instability, which hindered unity.

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Although some efforts have been there

→ Arab league under Egypt's leadership

→ OPEC with large Arab membership

→ Consistent opposition to Israel and Iran

→ Relisious unity in form of Haj travel

→ Post end of cold war, interference of USSR died, which reduced ideological differences.

Recent Abraham accord is also a step in direction of Arab Unity.

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(5) · Feminist ideas emerged Post 1970 in various forms.

(9)

Feminist ideas
- → Supporting female interest in Political, socio-cultural & economic arena
- → Countering gender discrimination
- → Promoting egalitarianism

~~Some etc~~

They were crucial in emergence of new phase of women's movement

→ It was new phase, as unity on common issues were there transcending class & caste

→ No specific ~~rea~~ bias towards a particular political party

→ Rise of various literature and magazines e.g. Manushi

→ New economic & skill support organisations were created e.g. SEWA by Ila Bhatt

→ Progressive Autonomous organisations supported female causes via protests and vocal opposition e.g. Forum Against Rape

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→ Support was there for disaster victims e.g Bhopal gas tragedy and domestic violence victims.

→ Later on the focus was on constructivist phase e.g. providing social-psychological economic support to rape victims.

Challenges

↳ Less participation from rural areas

↳ Lack of continuity in movements

↳ Some caste & class bias was also observed

↳ Many times radical tendencies supported man vs. women conflict.

Now with rise of social media & ICT Technologies the movement has entered into a Glocal phase.

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(6) Social empowerement refers to giving decision making rights (Swaraj) to socially disadvantageous communities e.g. women, transgender etc

It is a prerequisite of nations developmentas

1) Less womens participation in economic persuits reduces overall growth rate e.g. due to low labor Force Parti-cipation

2) It deprives country from skill, technology and demo-graphic dividend

3) Causal tradition al customs reduces rational and humanistic spirits, which is antithetical for economic & spiritual growth

It is an indicator of nation's development

→ All developed countries have high rate of female literacy and labor force participation rate (Norwey: 50%)

→ There is lack of caste & class conflict in developed world.

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→ Racial conflict is largely lacking in Europe

→ LGBTQ & transgender rights were allowed 1st/y in western nations.

→ Emphasis on Child rights, disabled rights is clearly visible in developed countries

Actions taken by India:

1) Legal Actions: e.g. Maternity Benefit Act

2) Socio-cultural Actions: Abolishing Triple Talaq.

3) Technological aspect: Reducing gender digital divide by DISHA.

This can truely realise social, economic and political equality for all

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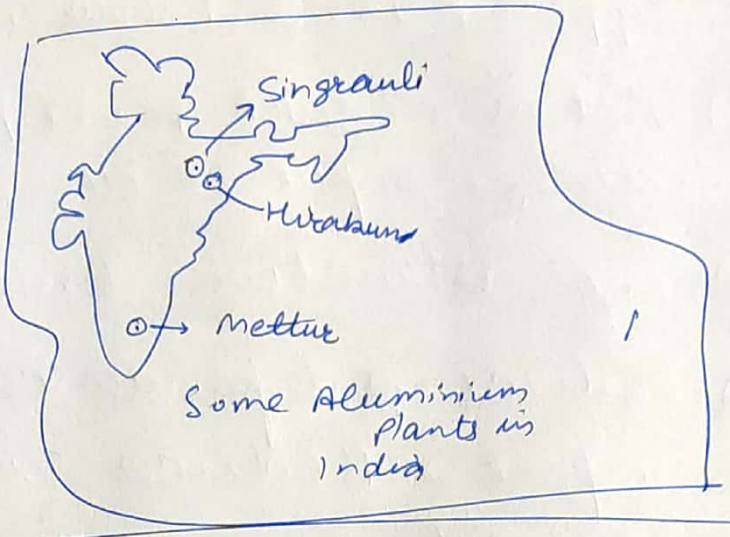
7) Aluminium industry is an important capital industry



Location Factor of Aluminium industry

1) Availability of cheap electricity e.g Hirakund dam

2) Raw material availability e.g Bauxite from Sundargarh

3) Cheap Labor availability e.g Eastern India

4) Capital availability

5) land availability and good modes of transportation e.g Mettur in Tamilnadu

6) Govt. Policy to support industry in regionall backward area.

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Importance of industry

1) Providing employment opportunity → Labour intensiveness

2) Act as growth multiplier industry → Input to other industries

3) Infrastructure development

4) Reducing dependence on import → Reduces Trade Deficit.

5) Promotes IIP growth and wider economic growth.

Challenges

- Cost of electricity
- Land cost
- Technological obsolesence
- Competition from cheap import

There is need to focus on Make in India in Aluminium industry.

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(8) Global climate systems refers to atmospheric phenomenons which are interconnected (15)

1) Interconnection of Indian monsoon with El Nino, La Nina, Indian ocean Dipole, Boreal deforestation and Polar Temperatures.

2) Interconnection of Temp-erate cyclones with Polar westerlies and easterly jet streams

3) High global temperature can cause distortions in polar vortex, which can ~~an~~ create extremely cold conditions in temperate regions e.g recent cold wave in US

This interconnectedness exists due to

1) Link of all phenomenon with Solar insolation and maintenance of heat budget by atmospheric and earth subsystems

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2) Earth's biosphere is inter-connected with Lithosphere, Hydrosphere & Atmosphere through energy transfer and matter transfer (Bio-geochemical cycles)

3) Impact of anthropogenic actions is everywhere e.g. CO_2 release, which has strengthened this interconnection.

Better understanding of this interconnection can allow us becoming more resilient to changing climatic phenomenon.

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(9) Atlantification refers to strong commercial use of oceans by littoral states on lines of Atlantic Ocean done by ~~use~~ European & North American nations.

(17)

Atlantification encapsulates

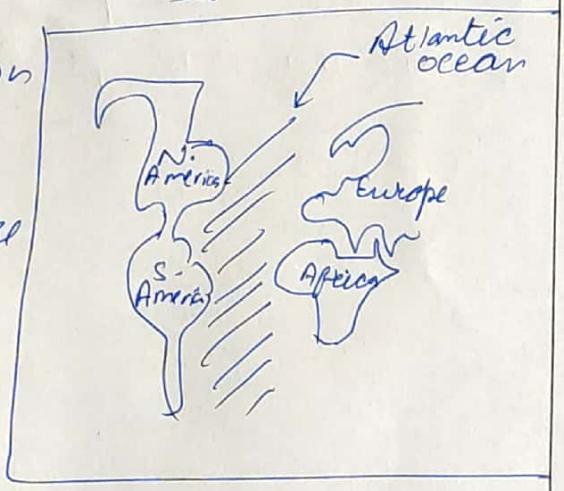
- High maritime movement
- Exploration of fishery ~~at~~ & other resources at commercial scale.
- Exploration of energy minerals e.g. North sea.

Ecological impact

1) Over exploitation of resources

2) Disturbance in marine biodiversity

e.g. Pollution or oil disasters



3) Conflict between littoral nations e.g. in South China

4) Inhibiting with heat budget of oceans which impacts under global climate.

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Way Forward

1) Regional cooperation e.g IORA in Indian Ocean

2) Sustainable resource exploitation e.g marine fishery management

3) Understanding marine regions better e.g R&D

By adopting concept of Blue economy in Green mode, we can make balance between development and ecological protection.

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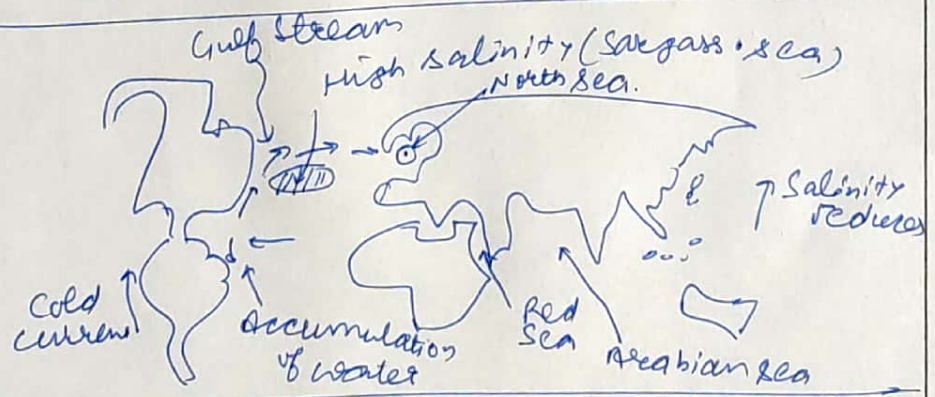
Salinity refers to amount of salt ($NaCl$, $CaSO_4$ etc) present in water Bodies.

Factors affecting salinity in Ocean Bodies

1) Addition of fresh water → it reduces salinity e.g salinity at Ganga's mouth in Bay of Bengal is low (≃ 32‰).

2) Evaporation of water increases salinity e.g high salinity in sub-tropical ocean region (Sargasso sea)

3) Enclosed oceans have higher salinity, due to more evaporation & less addition e.g. Mediterranian sea.



4) Currents → impacts salinity, e.g. cold currents are less saline than warm currents

5) Accumulation of water due to wind also increases salinity

e.g. east coast of Brazil.

Reasons for higher salinity in

1) North Sea → Gulf stream flow which is high saline.

2) Arabian Sea → Less input of fresh water & more evapouration (≃ 36‰)

3) Red sea (≃ 42‰) → Due to enclosed nature of sea

Owing to human waste disposal & global warming, salinity change is being observed in various oceans & sea which is impacting global biodiversity.

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(11) Sangam literature was created by Sangam assemblies during ancient Period. (21)

Sangam Literature

Didactic & Narrative

- → Tamil Language
- → By various Poets & Writers from 1st BC to 7th AD
- → Represents history of Deccan region.
- → Had support of local rulers

Significance of Sangam literature is understanding history of that Period

1) Gives a picture of social & cultural traditions e.g. marriage rituals and status of women.

2) Also provides economic picture of that time e.g. type of trade

3) Geopolitical scenario is also visible e.g about relations & strengths of various rulers.

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4) Technological development is also visible e.g. from war implements used

5) Legal aspects are also clear e.g. Rules of punishment for various crimes

6) Relation of people with nature can be ascertained from these e.g. respect towards trees/sun etc

But this knowledge has to be taken with pinch of salt

→ As ballards can be due to over-enthusiasm or support by rulers

→ The data availability was not holistic and experiences were subjective

→ Rationalism was lacking sometimes and more emphasis was on supporting traditional view points.

→ This might have been modified by later writers to fulfill some personal interests.

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This requires a contextual understanding of various texts written in Sangam Literature

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(12) (13) Sardar Patel ~~was~~ is considered as Iron-Man of India due to his strong will power and outcome oriented actions.

(24)

Role of Sardar Patel in Pre-Independence India

1) Supporting the constructivist aspect of INC → e.g. in promoting Hindu-Muslim unity, promoting Harijan's interests & supporting self-sufficiency ~~by~~ ~~pro~~ promoting Charkha

2) Leading mass movements and supporting women's participation and empowerment e.g. Bardoli Satyagraha where he got title of "Sardar".

3) Promoting Gandhian values in freedom struggle e.g. by becoming a supporter of Gandhiji in mass movement.

4) Leading INC in various occasions & promoting secularist agendas e.g. Karachi Session of INC was led by Patel.

5) Supporting various trade & farmer's movements e.g. AITUC.

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Role in Post independence

1) 1st Home minister of Independent India.

2) Played role in unification of India by negotiating with princely states for merger in Indian union.

3) Played role in 1947 invasion of Pakistani tribals in J&K.

4) Was part of constituent assembly of India & played role in various committees e.g. Fundamental Rights committee

Comparision of Bismark & Patel

Similarities

→ Strong will power

→ Emphasis on unification of their motherlands

→ Used methods of persuasion & compulsion

Dissimilarities

→ Bismarck was Prime minister while Patel was Home minister

→ Use of force and reactionary approach was prominent in Bismark's case e.g. fight against socialists. While Patel was reformist & Liberal

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→ Bismark was more towards uniformity e.g. ~~to~~ in terms of German language
while Patel respected diversity e.g.. promoting multilinguistic and multi-ethnic states

Although final aim of both was ~~to~~ make their motherland safe, strong & resilient.

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(13) There were more than 500 princely states in pre-independent India.

Political mobilisation refers to mobilisation of people towards a common political goal.

It was not a sudden phenomenon but a gradual process as

1) INC did not allow people of princely states to form local organisations in its name.

2) Gradually with movement of runaway terrorists from British Provinces and motivation from mass movements in British India people in princely states joined hands e.g. 1927 All India State People's Conference

3) Princely rule was more autocratic & brutal in some states, which fomented nationalistic feelings e.g. in Junagarh.

It had links to national movement

1) During 1905 Swadeshi movement & 1919 non-cooperation movement → Less disruptions in princely states, but people got

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motivation & strength from their partial successes

2) Civil disobedience movement → wider participation by people of princely states including women e.g in Bhopal.

3) Rise of farmer's union & trade bodies which were linked with AITUC and All India Kisan Congress

4) In Hyderabad, communist parties were more active and led movements like Telangana movement.

5) Impact of Quit India movement was widespread in princely states; led to local revolts

6) INA movement and Naval mutiny resulted into local support and local protests in princely states like Travancore

7) Impact of Vaikom movement and Temple entry movement in Kerala was also linked with national movement.

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This created harmonious links between princely states & British Provinc's masses, + not became useful in unification of country post independence.

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(14) Post World war-II, world became bipolar (US on one side led capitalistic forces while USSR led communistic groups)

Spread of communism outside Europe was due to:

1) Efforts by USSR leaders like Stalin, Khrushev, Brezenev.

2) Interference into other country's Political arena and saving communism where it is threatened e.g. Brezenev doctrine

3) Via COMECON, COMINFORM and later Warsaw Pact

Responses to it were due to:

1) Truman doctrine and Eisenhower doctrine to stop spread of communism.

2) Domino Theory is needed to be countered to stop communistic spread.

It vitiated World Peace in following ways

1) Korean war → Divided Korea into South & North Korea. Later war ensured to promote

(30)

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Truman doctrine.

2) Vietnam war → US support to South Vietnam's ruler Diem to counter Ho Chi Minh's communist North Vietnam. War ensued for more than 20 years. Also created disorderly situation in US due to its opposition.

3) Angola war → Support by US & USSR to opposing factions. Resulted into losses of human lives and delayed opposition to South African Apartheid.

4) Cuba → Resulted into Cuban missile crisis, which brought world to brink of nuclear war

5) Afghanistan → USSR invasion, US support to Jehadis, which resulted into local conflict, which is going on still now.

6) Formation of CEATO, CENTO by US to oppose communism

7) UN could not play its role due to US/USSR conflict
Although some positive aspects came due to this

→ 3rd world countries and NAM promoted cooperation

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amongst Southern countries.

→ Transfer of Tech & economic prosperity due to US investment e.g. in Japan & S. Korea.

→ Creation of various treaties e.g. NTBT, START, INF to restrict any future showdown

Post USSR devolution, these conflicts subsided for some time, but now coming to fore due to Chinese domination

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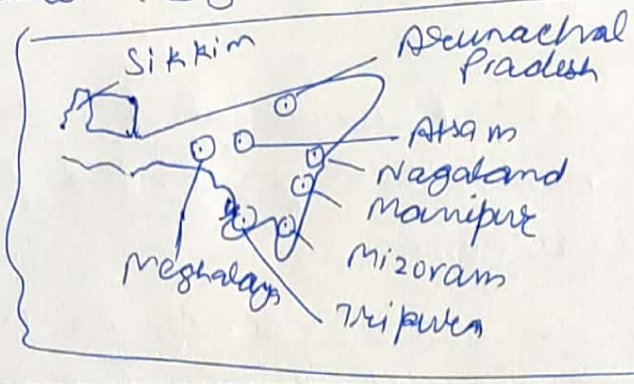
(19) North eastern region have 8 states



They are result of multiple phases of reorganisation

1st Phase → Post SRC Act →
Assam and 3 UTs (Manipur & Tripura, NEFA)

2nd Phase →
Creation of Nagaland in 1963 and separting out Meghalaya from Assam as special region without law & order powers.
Reason → Assamisation process and insurgency by NNC

3rd phase →
Creation of Meghalaya, Manipur & Tripura as Separate states in 1971.
Inclusion of Sikkim into India as full fledged state in 1975, following people's demand.

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4th phase

→ 1987: Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram granted full statehood.

Reason → Insurgency in Mizoram was handled via agreement with MNF leader Laldenga

In Arunachal, it was to provide local administrative autonomy.

Significance

→ Promoting Balanced regional development

→ Supporting federal spirit of decentralisation

→ Promoting unity in diversity via Pluralism and sharing of Power.

Challenges remain

→ Demand of NSCN in form of Greater Nagalim

→ Conflict between various ethnicities e.g. Naga & Meitei

→ Demand of separate states by Dima Hasao, Bodos & Kachar hill people.

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→ Developmental gap and alienation feeling fomenting troubles.

We need to explore NITI Forum for Northeast & Zonal Councils for better coordination. Along with improving implementation of 5th & 6th schedule of constitution.

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(16) Globalisation is a process of increasing interaction and interdependence in various social, economic, political & technological aspects amongst various countries & regions of world.

Globalisation has enriched Indian culture

1) Bringing diverse cuisines e.g. Chinese food

2) Fusion in dance, music and art e.g. Indi-Pop.

3) Bringing new fashion themes e.g Ethnowesters

4) Women empowerment and promoting egalitarianism e.g. high employment of females in IT industry.

5) Supporting urbanisation and development of metropolis with Global sphere of influence e.g. Bengaluru.

6) Cutting across caste and other divide e.g. by giving economic opportunity based on talent.

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7) Strengthening India's soft power through exposure of world to Yoga, meditation etc.

But it has exacerbated ~~some~~ many challenges

→ Increased rural urban divide e.g. High rural to urban distress migration

→ Created Regional divide e.g. Income of Haryana increased faster than that of Bihar.

→ Caste differences are transformed into class differences due to community based trade bias e.g.

→ ~~Gen~~ Gender divide is strengthened e.g. due to technological divide. Only 15% of ~~women~~ total internet users are women

→ Loss of local culture, language, food habits e.g. due to westernization as in Mcdonald culture.

Some steps taken by govt. to promote diversity

1) Ek Bharat Shreshta Bharat

2) Supporting local culture by 5th & 6th schedule of Constitution.

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Way Forward

1) Balancing between what globalisation can offer & what we need.

2) Glocalisation is way forward

3) Strengthening institutions & legal structures to increase gains from globalisation

This can truly make the process more sustainable

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(12) Modernisation refers to adoption of modern values of rationality, humanism and egalitarianism in socio-cultural discourse. (39)
e.g. Moving away from superstition

Modernisation in west were aimed at:

1) Secularism → Reducing influence of Church on personal/social lives.
2) Scientific development → To increase material prosperity
3) Changing Political Power structure → Away from feudalism
4) Supporting rights of vulnerables by ~~questioning~~ questioning traditions e.g. slavery.

It's to be seen differently in India's context as

→ Indian secularism is more towards "Sarva Dharma Sambhav" rather than strict separation from religion.

→ Indian traditional institutions were democratic & egalitarian. e.g. women's rights were equal to men in ancient times, which

got distorted due to misinter-pretation

→ Communal support is the foundation in India rather than individualism of west e.g. Philanthropy remained the basis of many ideologies since ions.

→ Role of family is very imp-ortant in India

→ Caste, initially was not a discriminating institution, but a functional classification, which became distorted later.

→ Respect towards elders & knowledge has been a long tradition in Indian culture.

Although some concepts of western modernisation can be adopted on functional and contexual basis e.g

1) Scientific rationalism for religious reform (Article 25)

2) Humanism to eliminate caste/gender/class divide.

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This can bring the necessary Glocalisation spirit, which is in large interest.

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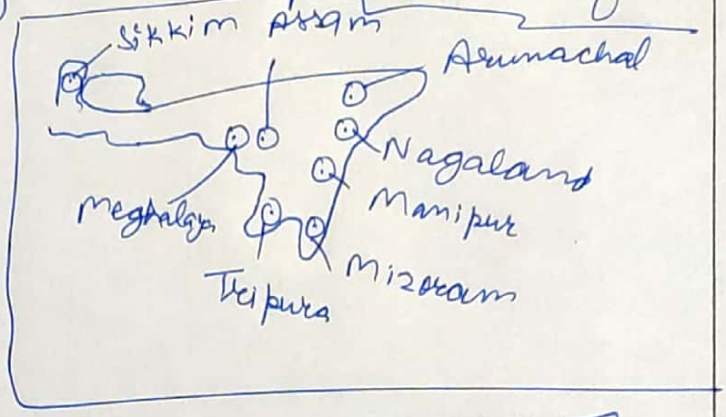
(18) North east is a misnomer, that is used for 8 North-eastern states for geographical identification



It does not convey cultural diversity of the region

1) Linguistic diversity → In Nagaland alone, more than 30 tribal languages are spoken. It is more than 250 in whole North east.

2) Ethnic diversity → Multiple ethnicities reside in different states e.g Dafla, Miri, Abor, Mishmi, Chakma, Hajong in Arunachal Pradesh

3) Traditional diversity → Diversity in cuisine, dance, art, music etc are significantly large e.g. Ngiou in Arunachal Pradesh, Khongjom Nrityo in Manipur.

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It has remained unexplored due to

1) ~~Alienation Policy~~

1) Isolation Policy adapted by Britishers initially.

2) Geographical difficulty in North-eastern region which ~~hap~~ hampered connectivity.

3) Focus of govt, in efficient use of scarce resources, so focus was more on alluvial regions of mainland e.g. in Green Revolution.

4) Lack of academic focus on cultural studies in North east, as local academic institutes are less.

5) Local security situation has also hampered the progress e.g. NSCN insurgency.

But govt is taking some steps

1) Effective implementation of 5th & 6th schedule of constitution

2) Solving local conflicts e.g. Bodo accord, Bru settlement

3) NITI Forum for North-east, financial allocation for

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local cultural studies.

There is a need to implement Xaxa committee recommend-ation in this regard to promote cultural diversity in North-east India. Role of BIMSTEC cooperation is also important here.

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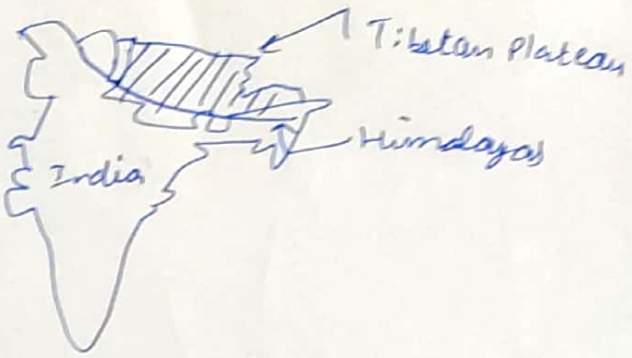
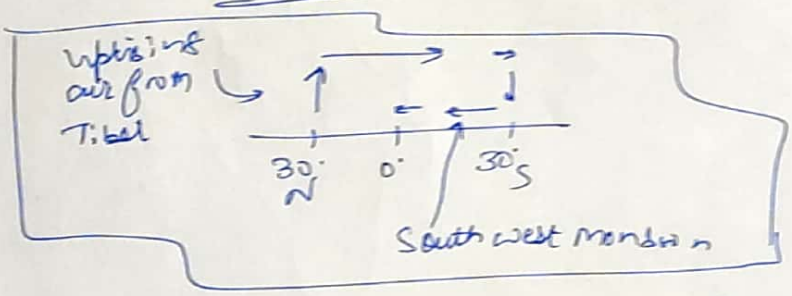
(19) Tibetan Plateau is the highest altitude plateau in world, situated in China. It's an intermontane Plateau.



It is known as water tower of Asia as

1) It's source of large no. of rivers e.g. Brahmaputra, Mekong etc

2) Responsible for formation of Southwest and North east monsoon due to Tibetan high & low.



3) It impacts jet stream flow in subtropical region thereby impacting western disturbances in winter in Indian subcontinent.

It plays an important role in monsoon

1) Due to development of Tibetan Low, owing to high insolation, which strengthens South west monsoon.

2) Tibetan high is responsible for North-east monsoon

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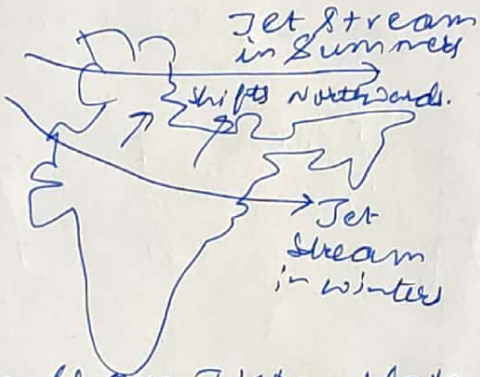
which provides rainfall in Tamil Nadu & Kerala.

3) Shifting of jet stream over Tibetan highlands also brings monsoon burst.



4) Rivers emerging from Tibetan plateau also contributes to hydrological cycle

5) Tibetan high also impacts Indian Ocean dipole which impacts monsoon.

Recent changes

1) Due to climate change, Tibetan high & low are getting impacted

2) Construction of dams by China in Tibet region e.g. over Brahmaputra is creating problems

in downward water supply.

There is more need to understand atmospheric phenomenon over Tibet, to better predict variations in monsoon due to climate change.

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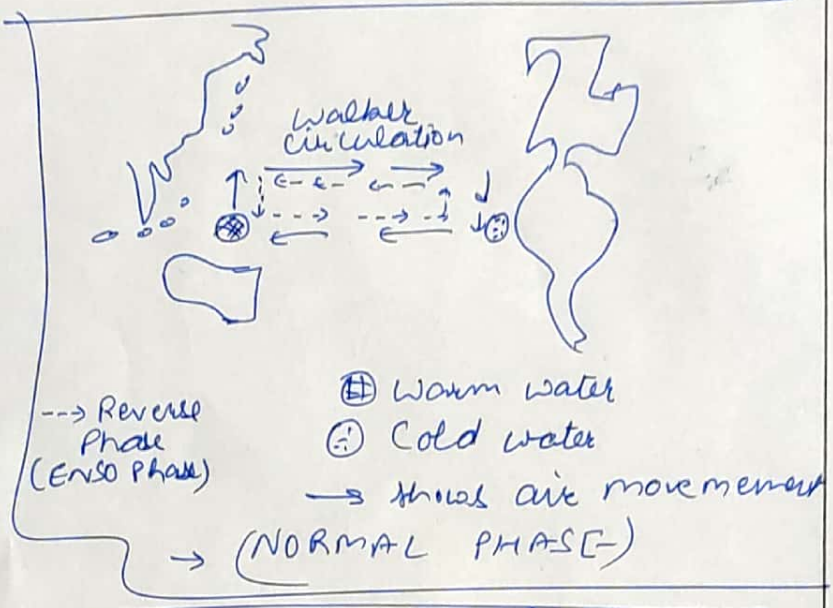
(20) Walker circulation is upward & downward movement of air limb over central Pacific ocean, due to warming & cooling of water in west & east pacific ocean.



Impact of walker circulation on global climate

1) On East & North Australian coast → During strong walker circulation, more rainfall & cyclonic activity, while during weak cycle, it faces drought.

2) Along Peruvian coast → Normal cycle → Dry weather, cold currents. Reverse cycle → High rainfall, death of fishes due to loss of plankton.

3) Impact on monsoon in Indian subcontinent → Strong cycle promotes above average rainfall in South west monsoon

and vice-versa. e.g. drought in India in 2009-10 was due to El Nino

4) Impact on meridional circulation

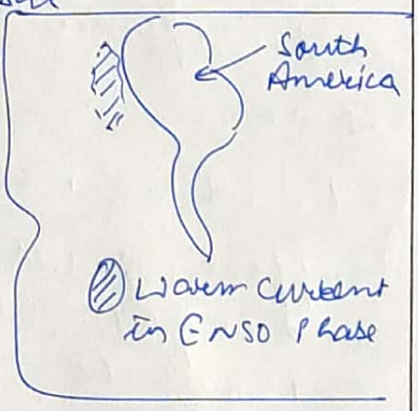
→ Weak cycle results into weak headly cell & vice-versa which impacts temperature at Polar region.

Impact of ENSO on Walker Circulation

ENSO → El Nino Southern Oscillation

→ Emergence of warm current along Peruvian Coast

→ Results into reversal of walker circulation cycle.



→ This is known as Southern Oscillation.

& phase is El Nino Phase

→ Normal phase in strong intensity is called La-Nina Phase

Owing to climate change uncertainity has ensued in these phases which is creating uncertainity in global climate.

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